

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 475

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

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AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GR

SUBJECT: GOG REACTS STRONGLY TO SYG LUNS' TRIP TO
WASHINGTON

REF: STATE 216906

1. AS MIGHT BE EXPECTED, THE GOG IS EXTREMELY UNHAPPY
WITH THE VISIT OF SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS TO WASHINGTON TO
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CONVEY HIS CONCERN OVER THE THREAT TO THE NATO ALLIANCE

OF THE TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO. UNHAPPINESS WAS ALSO EXPRESSED IN THE GREEK PRESS WITH GENERAL HAIG, WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS AN ACCOMPLICE OF LUNS, FOR HIS EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF LIFTING THE EMBARGO.

2. THE GOG WAS PARTICULARLY DISTRESSED AT THE REMARK REPORTEDLY MADE BY LUNS TO THE EFFECT THAT GREECE HAS NOT OBJECTED TO HIS MISSION TO THE U.S. ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, A GOG SPOKESMAN COMMENTED TO THE PRESS THAT THIS WAS NOT TRUE. ACTUALLY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE GREEK PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT NATO POINTED OUT TO DR. LUNS TWICE THAT HE SHOULD NOT GO TO WASHINGTON IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUESTION OF MILITARY AID TO TURKEY. IT WAS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT LUNS' MISSION CONSTITUTED AN UNJUSTIFIED PERSONAL INITIATIVE, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL.

3. THE MEDIA HAS TAKEN OUT AGAINST SYG LUNS EN MASSE, AND THE STORY RAGED ON THE FRONT PAGES OVER THE WEEKEND. CONSERVATIVE ESTIA BANNERED "INADMISSIBLE INTERVENTION BY MR. LUNS," PRO-GOVERNMENT AKROPOLIS PROTESTED "GREECE IS TO DENOUNCE BEFORE NATO THE SELF INVITED SUPPORT IN FAVOR OF TURKEY--OUTCRY AGAINST LUNS--EVEN KISSINGER DISAPPROVES OF HIM." (THE PRESS CLAIMED THE SECRETARY'S REMARK THAT LUNS HAD GONE TO WASHINGTON AT THIS OWN INITIATIVE SHOWED THAT THE SECRETARY WAS ALSO UNHAPPY OVER LUNS' INTERVENTION IN THE EMBARGO QUESTION.) PRO CARAMANLIS AFTERNOON VRADYNI HEADLINED "LIAR LUNS MUST IMMEDIATELY LEAVE NATO: PROVOCATIVE ATTACH AGAINST CARAMANLIS." THE PRESS GENERALLY HAS LAMBASTED SYG LUNS FOR HIS TRIP AND HAS PROMISED THAT GREECE WILL SEEK REVENGE.

4. A MFA OFFICIAL DEALING WITH NATO AFFAIRS TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT PRESS REPORTS OVER THE WEEKEND INDICATING THAT THE GOG WOULD RAISE THIS SUBJECT AT THE DECEMBER NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING WERE NOT CORRECT. HE SAID THAT WHILE LUNS, MISSION HAD BEEN CLEARLY OUT OF LINE, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE GOG HAD NO INTENTION, AT THIS POINT AT LEAST, OF PUSHING THE POINT FURTHER AT THE DECEMBER MEETING.
KUBISCH

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